

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05688 311415Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ICAE-00  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-02 EB-08 FAA-00 DOTE-00  
/060 W

-----044292 311419Z /53

O 311402Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8102  
INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GER IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, WB, PL, GE  
SUBJECT: GDR PRESS TREATMENT OF LOT HIJACKING TO  
TEMPELHOF

REFS: (A) USBER 2051 (NOTAL)  
(B) USBER 2053  
(C) BERLIN 5670 (NOTAL)

1. EAST BERLIN DAILIES OF AUGUST 31 DEVOTE  
APPROXIMATELY ONE-HALF COLUMN ON SECOND PAGES TO  
COVERAGE OF LOT AIRCRAFT HIJACKING TO WEST BERLIN.  
TREATMENT IS DIVIDED INTO THREE SEPARATE  
ARTICLES.

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2. FIRST ARTICLE IS DATELINED WARSAW FROM PAP  
AND MERELY REPORTS BRIEFLY THAT A LOT PLANE ON THE  
GDANSK-BERLIN ROUTE WAS HIJACKED AND LANDED AT  
TEMPELHOF IN WEST BERLIN AND THAT DETAILS OF THE  
HIJACKING ARE BEING INVESTIGATED.

3. SECOND, CONSIDERABLY LONGER, ADN BERLIN-DATELINED

ARTICLE ENTITLED "MYSTERIOUS AIRCRAFT HIJACKING", REPORTS THAT THE PASSENGERS OF THE POLISH AIRCRAFT HIJACKED BY AN "AIR PIRATE" TO TEMPELHOF IN WEST BERLIN RETURNED TO THE BERLIN-SCHOENEFELD AIRPORT IN THE EVENING HOURS. AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF ILLEGAL FORCED STAY AND ANNOYING TREATMENT BY THE "US-AMERICAN AND WEST BERLIN AUTHORITIES" THEY CAME BACK TO THE GDR PARTLY IN THE HIJACKED AIRCRAFT AND PARTLY IN BUSES.

4. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT THE PASSENGERS REPORTED THAT SOME OF THEM WERE MADE THE TARGETS OF QUESTIONING, THREATS AND PSYCHOLOGICAL MANIPULATIONS AND IN A PROVOCATIVE MANNER WERE CALLED UPON TO REMAIN IN WEST BERLIN. SOME PERSONS SUCCUMBED TO THIS PRESSURE, THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE IS CURRENTLY UNKNOWN. REPRESENTATIVES OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE GDR AND JOURNALISTS, WHO WANTED TO ENTER THE TERRITORY OF THE AIRPORT, WERE PREVENTED FROM MAKING ANY CONTACT WITH THE PASSENGERS FROM THE GDR.

5. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT TEMPELHOF AIRPORT WAS HERMETICALLY SEALED BY THE AMERICAN GARRISON AGAINST THE OUTSIDE WORLD AND AN INFORMATION EMBARGO ENFORCED. TO DATE NO CLARIFICATION HAS COME FROM THE WESTERN POWERS WHO ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WEST BERLIN THAT THE AIR PIRATE WOULD BE HANDED OVER, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FACT THAT THE THREE WESTERN POWERS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN WEST BERLIN IN RECENT MONTHS SIGNED A DECLARATION TO TAKE ENERGETIC ACTION AGAINST AIRCRAFT HIJACKERS.

6. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT IN WEST BERLIN IT IS PUT OUT THAT THE HANDING OVER TO THE GDR OF THE AIR PIRATE, WHO ACCORDING TO PAP SHOULD BE THE GDR CITIZEN DETLEF ALEXANDER TIEDE, WILL NOT TAKE PLACE CONTRARY TO "LAW AND STATUTE."

7. THIRD SHORT ARTICLE FROM BERLIN ADN REPORTS THAT THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE GDR DELIVERED AN ENERGETIC PROTEST TO THE SENAT OF WEST BERLIN ON WEDNESDAY IN CONNECTION WITH THE HIJACKING OF A LOT AIRCRAFT AGAINST THE "ANNOYING TREATMENT OF THE GDR CITIZENS TRAVELLING WITH THIS CRAFT AND THEIR ILLEGAL DETENTION IN WEST BERLIN."

8. COMMENT: GDR LINE THAT PASSENGERS WERE PRESSURED TO STAY IN THE WEST AND ILLEGALLY DETAINED IS SIMILAR TO ITS TREATMENT OF FRG HANDLING OF HIJACKING OF CZECH AIRCRAFT IN FEBRUARY. GDR HAS QUICKLY - IF

INDIRECTLY - ZEROED IN ON THE BONN DECLARATION ON  
HIJACKING. AS OF NOW, THE GDR PRESS TREATMENT, IN  
THE FORM OF THE PROTEST TO THE WEST BERLIN SENAT, HAS  
NOT EXPLICITLY DEMANDED THE RETURN OF THE HIJACKER.  
END COMMENT. BOLEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic DecapTIONing:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, ARRESTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 aug 1978  
**DecapTION Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**DecapTION Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** Released in Full  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** 200701569  
**Disposition Comment:** RECORDING OF CLASSIFICATION/RECLASSIFICATION ACTION IN SAS (STATE ARCHIVING SYSTEM) BY THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITY FOR THIS ACTION, WHO HAS APPROVED RECLASSIFICATION AND OR EXTENSION ACTION ON THIS DOCUMENT.  
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**Disposition Event:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GDR PRESS TREATMENT OF LOT HIJACKING TO TEMPELHOF  
**TAGS:** PINS, WB, PL, GC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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